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Bulova Byline

The Monthly Newsletter from Chairman Bulova

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going on in Fairfax
County?



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February 2013

Greetings,

February seems like a good time to think ahead, ahead to warmer weather that is.

In addition to preparing for my soon-to-be-released annual **State of the County address** and the **Fiscal Year 2014/15 Budget process**, our office has been working on some community activities for Fairfax County constituents to enjoy this coming spring and summer.

More details will appear in future Bylines, but make sure you save some time on your calendars to enjoy these warm-weather, quality-of-life events and activities:

As Braddock District Supervisor I initiated a Summer Concerts-in-the-Parks Series called **Braddock Nights**. As Chairman, I am bringing the music to my current location here at the Fairfax County Government Center. During the months of July and August, County employees and music-loving neighbors will have the opportunity to end their day each Thursday with my **Evenings on the Elipse Concert Series** from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on the beautiful back lawn of the Government Center. We're still in the planning stage! If you have ideas for entertainment or wish to be a sponsor for the Concert series, please let my office know.



On April 27th, a new and improved Earth Day/Arbor Day celebration - **Springfest** - will be launched at a new location, the grounds of the **Workhouse Arts Center in the Lorton**. This location is easily accessible right off Route 123 and I-95 and activities will include interpretive bus tours of our cutting-edge South County Green Energy Triangle. The day will feature lots of fun and educational activities for nature lovers, young and old!

Warm weather or cold, Fairfax County offers many opportunities for enjoyment. A great resource is available on the County's website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/parks/>.

Wherever you live in Fairfax County, there is a park near you!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Sharon Bulova'.

Sharon Bulova

Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

FY 2014 Budget Timeline

Please see below for a quick timeline on the FY 2014 Budget Timeline. Continue to check <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/website> for opportunities to comment on the budget.

Budget Event	Date
Release of the County's FY 2014 Advertised Budget Plan	February 26, 2013
Board of Supervisors' Meeting: FY 2013 Third Quarter	March 5, 2013
Public Hearing on FY 2014 Budget - Board Auditorium - Govt. Center	April 9, 2013
Public Hearing on FY 2014 Budget - Board Auditorium - Govt. Center	April 10, 2013
Public Hearing on FY 2014 Budget - Board Auditorium - Govt. Center	April 11, 2013
FY 2014 Board Budget Mark-up and Approval of FY 2013 Third Quarter	April 23, 2013
Formal Adoption of the FY 2014 Budget	April 30, 2013
Beginning of FY 2014	July 1, 2013

* Opportunities for public comment will also be listed on the County and School budget proposals.

Fairfax Connector Service Expansions

In the last issue of the *Byline* I wrote about the new Express Connector bus service that is utilizing the I-495 Express Lanes to provide fast, limited stop service to Tysons. I had a chance to take a ride on the inaugural trip from the Burke Centre VRE station to Tysons and it is a quick trip without the stress of fighting traffic in a car.

This is the first of three Express Connector services that will use the 495 Express Lanes to provide fast, reliable service to riders. In coming months, additional new routes will provide connections from the Saratoga Park and Ride Lot in Springfield and from the Lorton VRE Station to Tysons. For more information about this new and exciting service, please visit the County's website at: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/routes/expresslanes/>.



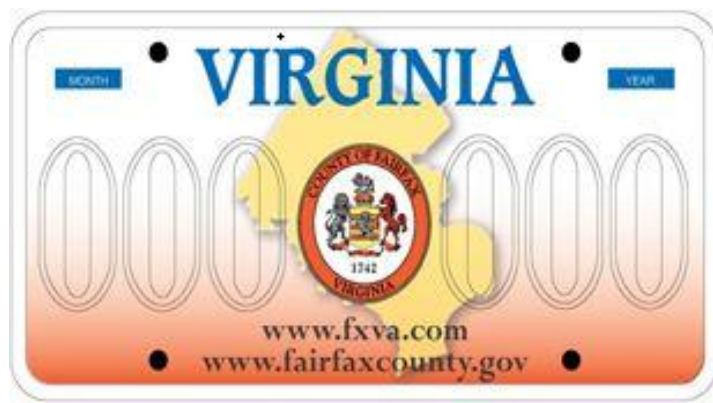
Photo from Express Connector event marking inaugural trip from Burke Centre VRE to Tysons.

I am pleased to report that planning for Fairfax Connector service changes to support the Metro Silver Line is under way. The Fairfax County Department of Transportation (FCDOT) has proposed a significant shift in current services to improve county residents' access to bus and rail, to provide a circulator service within Tysons and to better connect existing transit

hubs within the county. The planning effort is still in the preliminary phases and FCDOT would appreciate feedback from residents on how to align the proposed routes. To view the proposals, find public meetings or make comments, please visit: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/routes/dullesrail/>.

Fairfax County License Plate

I am proud to be a resident of one of the oldest and greatest counties in the country. With the addition of Fairfax County's brand new license plate, I can now express my pride on-the-go. Fairfax residents now have the choice of purchasing an attractive, colorful license plate that displays the County seal.



To purchase a license plate please fill out and submit an application at www.fxva.com/plates. With an annual fee of \$25, revenue from the plates will support the World Police and Fire Games. These games are one of the largest international athletic competitions, second only to the Olympics, and will be hosted by Fairfax County in 2015.



100,000 Homes Campaign



The 100,000 Homes Campaign is a national movement of communities working together to find permanent homes for 100,000 of the country's most vulnerable and chronically homeless families and individuals by July of 2014. Our Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership on Ending Homelessness is joining the campaign, which will kick off on February 23 with Registry Week. The Partnership's goal is to house 150 of the most vulnerable chronically homeless here in Fairfax County. During the week of February 23-March 1, the campaign anticipates that they will need upwards of 150 volunteers county-wide.

Volunteer Opportunities

Survey Volunteers are needed to work in teams of four to interview homeless individuals for the registry. ***This is a four-day commitment*** and, due to the manner in which the outreach is conducted, the same team of four must survey the assigned geographical area all three days. Please note: to be part of a survey team, you will need to participate in a half-day training session related to interviewing the homeless and collecting survey data. Survey volunteers will be needed for ***all*** of the following times:

Saturday, Feb. 23 - Overview and Volunteer Training, Noon-4 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 25 - Survey with Team, 4-7 a.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 26 - Survey with Team, 4-7 a.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 27 - Survey with Team, 4-7 a.m.



Headquarters Volunteers are needed in each human service region throughout the week to staff volunteer headquarters. These volunteers will help set up for the initial volunteer training and/or assist at headquarters each survey morning by setting up food, helping with cleanup and answering volunteer questions. Help will also be needed to break down headquarters. Those who have experience with supervising volunteers may be asked to take a leadership role at a center and help with the overall management of volunteers each day. Headquarters volunteers are needed:

Saturday, Feb. 23 - Training Setup, 10 a.m. - Noon

Saturday, Feb. 23 - Training Breakdown, 5-6 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 25 - Setup and Assistance, 3-5:30 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 25 - Cleanup, Data Collection, 5:30-8 a.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 26 - Setup and Assistance, 3-5:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 26 - Cleanup, Data Collection, 5:30-8 a.m.

Wednesday, Feb. 27 - Setup and Assistance, 3-5:30 a.m.

**100,000
HOMES**
www.100khomes.org

Wednesday, Feb. 27 - Cleanup, Data Collection, 5:30-8 a.m.

If you would like to volunteer please [register online](#) or contact a [volunteer headquarters captain](#).

For more information on the 100,000 Homes Campaign, please contact Tom Barnett at tom.barnett@fairfaxcounty.gov or at 703-324-9492.

Changes for Child Care Providers

Quality childcare is critical for our community and remains a top priority for the Board of Supervisors. In a Special Byline last summer, I shared with readers a change to the State's process for licensing child care providers that triggered the need for changes in our County's zoning ordinance.

On January 29, the Board of Supervisors approved the advertisement of changes to our ordinance that would increase (with a Special Permit) the current County limit of 10 children up to 12, in order to be in alignment with the State. Additionally, in order to make the Permit more affordable, a range from \$435 to the current \$1,100 was advertised. Lastly, County staff has been directed to make the application forms and process more streamlined and easier to understand.

Providers caring for seven or fewer children in a single family home, or five or fewer in a townhouse or apartment, can do so "by -right", without a Special Permit. More information about this issue can be found at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/zoning/homechildcarefacilities/>.

A Public Hearing regarding these changes is scheduled before the Planning Commission on March 20th. To sign up to speak go to <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning/speaker.htm> or call (703) 324-2865.

Following the Planning Commission, the Board of Supervisors will consider approval of these changes at a Public Hearing on May 14th. You may sign up to speak by going to https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bosclerk/speaker_bos.htm or by calling (703) 324-3151.

We Welcome New Mason President Cabrera and Congratulate Him on His Excellent Visioning Exercise!

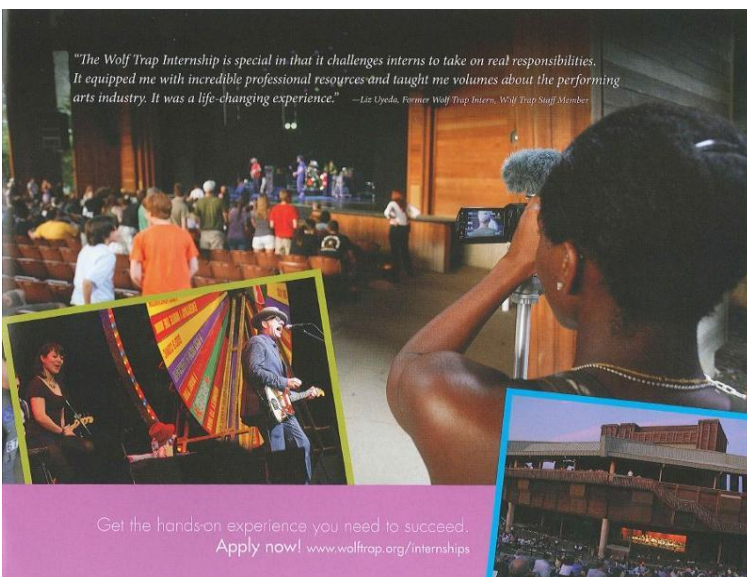


George Mason has a new vision and plan: the Mason idea! The Mason idea is that Mason at its core is innovative, diverse, entrepreneurial, and accessible. This Mason idea, according to which describes George Mason's institutional strengths, reminds the GMU community that they are committed to be a university for the world, drawn together to work across cultures, bringing new perspectives and solutions to the world's most pressing problems and preparing GMU students to navigate in it.



For more information on the Mason idea click [here](#) or watch a [special video message](#) from President Cabrera.

Internships at the Wolf Trap



Did you know that The Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts offers a 12-week internship program?

Ideally suited for students and recent graduates, Wolf Trap Internships are organized based on the departmental structure of the Wolf Trap Foundation. Interns specialize within a department, working in teams with those in other departments to learn new skills and explore many areas of arts production, presentation, and management.

For more information please visit www.wolftrap.org/internships.

National Consumer Protection Week

Fairfax County Consumer Affairs is celebrating the 15th Annual National Consumer Protection Week.

Looking to protect yourself from fraud, identity theft, and scams? Maybe you're wondering about the best way to use credit, how to shop for a used car, or maximize your security online. Fairfax County Consumer Affairs has information for you during National Consumer Protection Week, March 3-9, 2013.

Fairfax County Consumer Affairs is celebrating National Consumer Protection Week along with government agencies, advocacy organizations and private sector groups nationwide. Here in Fairfax, Consumer Affairs will be hosting events and workshops with industry experts, setting up information booths, and partnering with state and federal agencies to showcase consumer information. Susan Jones, Branch Chief, stated, "Throughout the year, Fairfax County Consumer Affairs answers advice inquiries, assists consumers with pre-purchase information, and provides community outreach presentations. National Consumer Protection Week gives us the opportunity to share resources and educate consumers. Our goal is that consumers become well informed of their consumer rights and know where to turn when assistance is needed."

Visit www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/ncpw-2013.htm for more information. To register for an event please visit <http://ncpw.eventbrite.gov>, email consumer@fairfaxcounty.gov, or call 703-222-8435 TTY 711.

Evaluating a potential contractor? One of my favorite consumer protection sites is http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/consumer/igext/csd_acs.asp, which allows you to look up the complaint history of any Fairfax County contractor.

Art in Transit Program

Aesthetics matter. The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) is looking for artists to help bring the Silver Line to life! The Silver Line, which will be serving passengers from East Falls Church to Reston by the end of this year, is a new addition to the current Metrorail system. It will serve the Tysons area, giving residents and workers more transportation opportunities.

WMATA's ***Metro Art in Transit Program*** encourages artists to help create an exciting and attractive sense of place and vibrancy in Metro stations.



This is a competitive process. A panel will choose three finalists based on their artwork. The artists will then be assigned to specific stations. Each station will have a budget of up to \$250,000. The deadline for applications is February 15th, and the final Commission Announcements will be announced on May 31. Click here for more information on the application process go to

http://wmata.com/community_outreach/metroarts/call_to_artists.cfm.

Valentine's Day Celebrations at the Workhouse

Have you made your Valentine's Day plans? Looking for a special and creative way to show your love for your sweetheart? [The Workhouse Arts Center](#), 9601 Ox Road Lorton, Virginia 22079, has a variety of events and classes that celebrate Valentine's Day. Several artists around campus have created special Valentine's Day cards, artwork and gifts that are available for purchase as well.



Here are some ideas on how to make your Valentine's Day unforgettable!:

- **Partner Yoga:** for those active couples and those couples looking to try something new! You can bring your significant other, or best friend, and have fun learning partner yoga poses, positions and techniques! No prior yoga experience is necessary. Partner yoga will be held on **Sunday, February 17th**. Tuition costs \$20 per couple. Register now by clicking [here](#).
- **Sweetheart Dinner:** a cooking class perfect for two! A special Valentine's Day couples cooking class taught by Chef Kathleen Linton. You and your partner can learn fun cooking techniques while preparing an array of international gourmet appetizer dishes with hands-on instruction. Sweetheart Dinner will be held on Wednesday, February 13 from 6-9 pm. Tuition costs \$80 per couple and requires a materials fee of \$25 that covers fresh foods used in class. Register now by clicking [here](#).
- **Hot Glass Workshops: Valentine's Heart Paperweight:** surprise your Valentine with a beautiful Valentine's Heart paperweight and learn some new artistic skills! These one day workshops are perfect for beginners looking for a fast and fun introduction to working in hot glass. Two sessions are available: Saturday, February 2, 10am and Saturday, February 9, 10am. Tuition costs \$125. Register now by clicking [here](#).